[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Vijay Goel, no. That is not the way you cannot do like this

.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : I can't reply to each and every member.

MR. SPEAKER : No, no. There is no need to do so.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : There is no need to give any reply. Neither am I supporting anyone nor am I protecting any criminals. But I would certainly like to make it clear that I consider it my duty to protect the dignity of this Parliament. I am not interested in protecting any person. But I would like to say that we have some national values. So long as charges levelled against my senior colleagues, who have served this nation, are not proved, I consider it unfair on my part to say even a word against their dignity and honour. This is my personal belief. Other people also influenced by Indian culture might have their own beliefs. Our culture says that so long as any person is not held guilty of any crime we should not consider him guilty. I won't disgrace myself by calling that person a criminal. Hense I would say that instead of holding the discussion in the House now, the discussion should have been held after the filing of charge-sheet. Then if those named in the charge-sheet would have taken any steps against the constitution, propriety or conventions, the discussion would have been more fruitful. It would have been more in keeping with the parliamentary traditions.

Mr. Speaker, pardon me for saying so but the discussion being held today goes against parliamentary practices, traditions and conventions.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Would the Government like to respond? This is a matter which has been raised during Zero Hour; the Government is not bound to reply. But looking at the mood of the House, I do not know whether the Prime Minister would like to respond.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : Sir, you are right that normally the Government does not respond to matters raised during Zero Hour and that is my intention. But I think, the discussion has taken a trend; I would only like to say a few words. I would not say more.

I had in the beginning, when I took charge of this Office, made certain commitments in this House. The Commitments were: First, that the Government would be transparent; second, that there would be no witch-hunting; and third, that anybody who has committed a crime would not be spared. I only repeat those and sit down.

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.30 p.m.

13.31 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Thirty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.40 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Forty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when Fodder Scam was being discussed in the House, thousands of Samta Party workers were holding demonstration at the Jantar-Mantar road demanding action against the Ministers against whom charge-sheet is to be filed. These workers were lathi-charged in the most barbarous manner. Several people have been injured. I am mentioning this incident because on one hand the Prime Minister gives an assurance and on the other hand what is Government trying to indicate by suppressing the demonstration held by some other political party. It is difficult to comprehend *....(Interruptions)* you should view the situation yourself *....(Interruptions)* This is the problem that the public held a demonstration and you are taking it easy *.....(Interruptions)* People are not living only in Patna.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now that you have made your mention, please sit down.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, people are being lathi-charged and they are getting injured and the Government wishes to suppress our voice.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

14.42 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to expedite setting up of a High Power T.V. Transmitter at Taragarh hill in Ajmer, Rajasthan

[Translation]

PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Ajmer is centrally located in Rajasthan. It has great importance from historical, cultural, educational and religious points of view Ajmer has made an important contribution in the freedom struggle of the country During the British regime, there were several pincely states in Rajasthan. At that time, throughout the entire Rajputana, Ajmer was the Centre of Freedom Struggle activities. Ajmer was a Union Territory till 1956. Doordarshan has launched several channels but what to say of viewing programmes on the new channels of Doordarshan even the programmes telecast on the main channel are not clearly visible in Ajmer, Bhilwara, Pali, Rajasmand, Nagaur and Tonk districts of Rajasthan and at times the telecast is interrupted in between due to which there is resentment among lakhs of T.V. viewers in Ajmer and its surrounding areas.

Non- availability of a powerful T.V. Transmitter is the main reason for poor reception of T.V. programmes in Ajmer. It is a matter of concern that though the Government had taken a dicision to set up a High power T.V. Transmitter

(H.P.T) of 10 K.V. in Ajmer during the 8th five year plan and 8 crore rupees were set aside for this project but even after completion of 8th plan the T.V. Transmitter has not been set up which is unfortunate.

The Central Government is threfore requested that in order to benefit lakhs of T.V. viewers and bring the Doordarshan programmes within the reach of all the people, a High power T.V. Transmitter should be set up without further delay at Taragarh hill in Ajmer city which has the credit of achieving the goal of cent percent literacy first of all in the Northern India.

(ii) Need to provide funds for widening of National Highway between Mumbai and Bangalore via Pune

[Translation]

SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL (Erandole) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a National Highway connects Mumbai with Bangalore via Pune. The State Government of Maharashtra had made a request to the Central Government for widening of this National Highway and after getting the sanction of the Central Government, the work regarding widening of this National Highway is likely to commence soon. The Government of Maharashtra also has to meet a part of the expendlture likely to be incurred on this work, but the State Government does not have adequate funds. Hence the State Government proposes to purchase land of farmes, landowners and other persons at Government rates and sell the same at higher rate so as to raise money to invest it in this project. However the farmers whose land are proposed to be acquired by the State Government will face the problem of earning their livelihood.

The Central Government is therefore urged upon to bear the entire expenses of widening of the National Highway so that the farmers and the land-owners are not deprived of their land.

(iii) Need to open an LPG outlet at Pimpalner in Sakri Tehsil in Maharashtra

DR. SAHEBRAO SUKRAM BAGUL (Dhule) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no Gas Agency in Pimpalner, Tehsil Sakri which falls under my constituency, Dhule in Maharashtra. There are several Government and private offices as well as academic institutions, wherein thousands of people are working. The population of the area is about 25,000 and there is acute shortage of fuel due to which people of this area are facing difficulties.

The Union Government is therefore urged upon to open a LPG outlet at Pimpalner under Tehsil Sakri in Maharashtra at the earliest.

(iv) Need to take effective steps for providing employment to Scheduled Tribes in Rajasthan

SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA (Salumber) : Mr. Deputy Speaker,Sir, the poor laboures and unemployed youths of the tribal areas of Rajasthan are looking for job opportunities. I want that job opportunities should be prevented to the poor labourers and triblal youths by generating employment opportunities in the tribal areas of Rajasthan. The Union Government should provide funds for setting up small scale as well as large scale industries at Udaipur, Dungarpur and Banswara for development of this region and also for providing employment to poor tribals for their livelihood. Besides, ponds should be dug up in order to provide irrigational facilities to the tribals so that they could make use of their land. The Government should make special provision in the budget in order to improve the financial position of the tribal area so that standard of living of these tribals may also be uplifted like their counterparts living in urban areas.

The Central Government is urged upon to take effective steps in this regard.

(v) Need to extend Gaya-Dihri passenger Train upto Garhwa Road in Bihar

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Aurangabad and Palamu districts, of Bihar state are extremely backward and terrorist Infested areas. Only one passenger train 127 Up and 128 Dn. is being run on the Dihri-Barwadihys line of Eastern Railways with only four bogies. The train is always overcrowded and the passengers are forced to travel on foot board due to which accidents take place quite frequently. On the other hand Gaya-Dihri passenger train remains halted at Dihri on-Son for nearly 10 hours daily.

The Union Government is, therefore, urged upon to extend the Gaya-Dihri passenger train upto Garhwa road and get 10 bogies attached with the 127 Up and 128 Dn passenger train.

(vi) Need to improve the Supply position of LPG in Jalpaiguri and other adjoining Districts in West Bengal

[English]

PROF JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is an acute crisis of LPG connections and also the supply of LPG cylinders to the consumers in the districts of Jalpaiguri,Darjeeling, Cooch Behar and Uttar and Dakshin Dinajpur, West Bengal. A good number of applications seeking LPG connections have been pending since long in these districts. Irregular supply of LPG cylinders is creating much resentment among the consumers. There is no bottling plant in this region as a result of which consumers are facing difficulties.

I urge upon the Central Government to take necessary steps to Increase the LPG dealership in this region and also to set up LPG bottling plants at the Industrial Complex of Raninagar in the district of Jalpaiguri and also in the district of Coochbehar and other districts of West Bengal.

(vii) Need to conduct a Survey of Kolli Hills in Rajaji District,Tamil Nadu to Harness Medicinal Herbs

SHRI K. KANDASAMY (Rasipuram) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at present the natural herbs and medicinal